

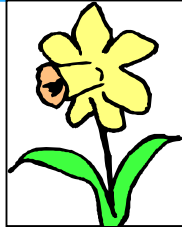
Newsletter

March '09

Springing forth....

The recent glimpses of spring weather has really helped trade - landscaping work is happening, getting on with regular work on nurseries is easier again – and I gather customers have been spotted in garden centres!

Remember to have compost, pots ready before plants are delivered – the week is on your order confirmations. Potting on arrival greatly improves quality – it is difficult to keep plug plants watered properly without causing a growth check or worse, damage to roots.



News from East Leake...



Our new laboratory building is taking shape now. We hope to be using the staff canteen and toilets shortly, although the lab itself will take longer to install the equipment etc...watch this space!

Spring Growing Tips

1) Downy Mildew on Roses

Early spring conditions are ideal for downy mildew - damp and mild.

Ventilate all day and all night to ensure air flow movement.

Symptoms often in small areas initially. Yellowing leaves and leaf drop. Purplish-brown irregular marks on leaves.

Remove affected plants immediately.

We find regular foliar feeding with FarmPhos (potassium phosphite) has a very beneficial effect in reducing downy mildew. This is now also available as "Uncle Tom's Rose Tonic" for use in public areas, parks & gardens etc (tel: 01432 851822)

2) Ventilation

Good ventilation and air movement can combat botrytis and other fungal problems. Particularly important if glasshouses, tunnels are closed at night.

Ordering

Please if you haven't ordered yet, please do so - as we are selling out of some varieties already. We really like to supply you, as a regular customer, with what you want.

Availability Lists

Request by phone, fax or email or call Barbara on

0800 015 3533

to check availability of specific varieties.

Blue for You!

Make sure you are making the most of the well-reported current trend of "grow your own".

The fruit with the most rapid growth in popularity is the blueberry.

Plants do well grown when in large patio-tubs, with ericaceous compost. Blueberries are attractive plants - spring flowers, late summer fruit and colourful autumn foliage. Plugs are best potted through a liner for 3-6 months, then on into a 2 or 3 litre pot.

